

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Todd M. Lynton**
Serial No.: **10/067,442**
Filing Date: **February 4, 2002**
For: **Product Registration System**

Confirmation No.: **7358**
Group Art Unit: 3629
Examiner: **Michael J. Fisher**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

APPELLANT'S BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

This brief is being filed in support of Appellant's appeal from the Final Rejection of claims 1 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23-28, 30-38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58 and 60 to 72 dated January 10, 2008 (FR). A Notice of Appeal was filed on March 18, 2008 along with a Request for Pre-Appeal Review. A decision on the Request for Pre-Appeal Review was mailed on April 11, 2008. Thus, the brief is due May 18, 2008 without extension fees.

1. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Senshin Capital, LLC, a limited liability company of the state of Delaware, with a registered address of 2711 Centerville Road, Suite 400, Wilmington, Delaware 19808 USA and principal office at Temasek Boulevard, #44-01 Suntec Tower One, Singapore 038987.

2. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

None.

3. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Pending	:	Claims 1 to 8, 10, 12-19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72
Canceled	:	Claims 9, 11, 20, 22, 29, 39 to 41, 50, 52 and 59
Rejected	:	Claims 1 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72
Allowed	:	None
Objected to	:	None
Withdrawn	:	None
Appealed	:	Claims 1 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72

4. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments were filed after the Final Rejection.

5. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The following summary is to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(iii).

In addition to the sections noted below, other portions of the specification may also provide support. Reference to the specification is by paragraph number, *e.g.*, [0000].

Claim 1

A computer-implemented method for registering a device, the method comprising steps of:	For example, Figs. 1 and 2 in their entirety; [0016], [0031]
(A) at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and	For example, Fig. 1, 114, Fig. 2, 114, [0016], [0030], [0046], [0062]
(B) at the registration server, registering the device with a manufacturer of the device in response to receipt of the registration request message;	For example, Fig. 1, 120, Fig. 2, 204, [0016], [0031]-[0033]
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

Claim 14

A computer-implemented method performed by a registration server to register a device, the method comprising steps of:	For example, Figs. 1 and 2 in their entirety; [0016], [0031]
(A) receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and	For example, Fig. 1, 120, [0016],
(B) registering the device with a manufacturer of the device based on the registration request message;	For example, Fig. 1, 120, [0016]
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

Claim 25

A method performed by a device for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device, the method comprising steps of:	For example, Figs. 1 and 2 in their entirety; [0016], [0031]
(A) transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and	For example, [0016], [0046], [0062]
(B) receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device;	For example, [0016], [0063]
wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

Claim 31

A system comprising:	For example, Fig. 1, [0023]
a device comprising means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and	For example, Fig. 1, 102, 104, [0016], [0025], [0046], [0052]
a registration server comprising means for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device in response to receipt of the registration request message;	For example, Fig. 1, 120
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

Claim 44

A registration server for registering a device, the registration server comprising:	For example, Fig. 1, 120
means for receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and	For example, Fig. 1, 120
means for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device based on the registration request message;	For example, Fig. 1, 120, 122
wherein the registration request message does	For example, [0016]

not include information identifying the user.

Claim 55

A device comprising:	For example, Fig. 1, 102, [0023], [0051]
means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and	For example, Fig. 1, 104, 108, [0025]-[0026], [0046], [0052]
means for receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device;	For example, Fig. 1, 104, 108, [0025]-[0026], [0046], [0052]
wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

Claim 61

A computer-implemented method for registering a device with a service, the method comprising steps of:	For example, Figs. 1 and 2 in their entirety; [0016], [0031], [0060]-[0061]
(A) at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user, wherein said registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered with the service; and	For example, Fig. 1, 114, Fig. 2, 114, [0016], [0030], [0058]-[0061]
at the registration server, registering the device for use with the service in response to receipt of the registration request message;	For example, Fig. 1, 120, Fig. 2, 204, [0016], [0031]-[0033], [0058]-[0061]
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.	For example, [0016]

6. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claims 1 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,832,526 (Howard).

7. ARGUMENT

Rejection of claims to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Howard

i. Legal standard

In rejecting claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, it is incumbent upon the Examiner to establish a factual basis to support the legal conclusion of obviousness. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 1073, 5 USPQ2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). In so doing, the Examiner is expected to make the factual determinations set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 17, 148 USPQ 459, 467 (1966). These showings by the Examiner are an essential part of complying with the burden of presenting a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Note *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1445, 24 USPQ2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992). If that burden is met, the burden then shifts to the applicant to overcome the *prima facie* case with argument and/or evidence. Obviousness is then determined on the basis of the evidence as a whole. See *id.*; *In re Hedges*, 783 F.2d 1038, 1039, 228 USPQ 685, 686 (Fed. Cir. 1986); *In re Piasecki*, 745 F.2d 1468, 1472, 223 USPQ 785, 788 (Fed. Cir. 1984); and *In re Rinehart*, 531 F.2d 1048, 1052, 189 USPQ 143, 147 (CCPA 1976).

A claim is obvious only when the subject matter of the claim as a whole would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). As set forth in *KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1741, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007):

[A] patent composed of several elements is not proved obvious merely by demonstrating that each of its elements was, independently, known in the

prior art. Although common sense directs one to look with care at a patent application that claims as innovation the combination of two known devices according to their established functions, it can be important to identify a reason that would have prompted a person of ordinary skill in the relevant field to combine the elements in the way the claimed new invention does.

The Federal Circuit in *Ortho-McNeil Pharm., Inc. v. Mylan Labs., Inc.*, 520 F.3d 1358 (Fed. Cir. 2008), confirmed that “a flexible TSM test *remains* the primary guarantor against a non-statutory hindsight analysis such as occurred in this case (emphasis added).” According to the court, “[t]he TSM test, flexibly applied, merely assures that the obviousness test proceeds on the basis of *evidence* — teachings, suggestions (a tellingly broad term), or motivations (an equally broad term) — that arise before the time of invention as the statute requires (emphasis added).” *Id.*

ii. **Claim construction**

In construing claim limitations it must be kept in mind that “as an initial matter, the PTO applies to the verbiage of the proposed claims the broadest reasonable meaning of the words in their ordinary usage as they would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, taking into account whatever enlightenment by way of definitions or otherwise that may be afforded by the written description contained in the applicant’s specification.” *In re Morris*, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054, 44 USPQ2d 1023, 1027 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

The claims under review require, *inter alia*, that a device be registered with a manufacturer of the device in response to a registration request message wherein information identifying the user is neither transmitted nor received during the registration.

iii. Analysis**a. Separate argument for independent claim 1**

Claim 1 is directed to a computer-implemented method where a device is registered with a manufacturer of the device by way of a registration request message transmitted from the device wherein the input provider by a user does not include information identifying the user and wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user. When Howard is read as a whole and the appropriate legal standard is applied it is seen that Howard does not teach or suggest this aspect of the claimed subject matter. Since Howard does not render the subject matter of claim 1 obvious as a whole as required by 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner has committed legal and factual error in rejecting the claim 1 and the rejection must be reversed.

Howard describes a method where an external device such as a printer is automatically configured when the printer is connected to a host system. *Id.*, column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 40. Howard states:

By receiving a device identification string or “device idstring,” the host system 20 recognizes that the external device 30 is integrated with the host system 20 so that the external device 30 may properly receive instructions and applications from the host system 20. An example of a device idstring having data fields for a Hewlett-Packard LASERJET2200 laser printer is illustrated in FIG. 3. Accordingly, as discussed in detail below, the external device 30 provides a device idstring.

Id., column 4, lines 15 to 22. As seen, Howard is providing a way of “installing” an external device such as a printer to a computer system, not sending a registration request message to a registration server that registers the device with a manufacturer wherein the input provider by a user does not include information identifying the user and wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner understands that Howard does not describe “registering the device with the manufacturer.” FR, pages 2 to 3. To make up for this deficiency the Examiner relies upon column 7, lines 36 to 40 of Howard. The paragraph that contains this passage reads:

As the system 10 is initially connecting with the host system 20 and the external device 30, the host system 20 runs the installer 22. The installer 22 is an executable installation program that is associated with the external device 30. The installer 22 installs software components in the operating system 29 of the host system 20. In general, the installer 22 installs software components for enabling the host system 20 to operate the external device 30. The installer 22 installs at least one device driver 26 as well as other device utilities, such as for example a font management utility or a status monitor. The installer 22 may also interactively provide the user with merchandising information associated with the external device 30, such as verification of warranty registration and software license agreements.

The Examiner states “[a]s its status is checked, it would have been obvious...to provide a mechanism for registering the warranty in case it has not been registered yet.” FR, page 3.

Missing from the Examiner’s analysis is an explanation as to how “verification of warranty registration” by installer 22 of Howard means that the device would be registered with the manufacturer without including information identifying the user as required by claim 1. Howard provides no details as to how that function would occur and warranty registration with the manufacturer typically includes the submission of information identifying the user.

See, e.g., specification, paragraph [0011] which reads:

When a consumer purchases a computing product, such as a computer, printer, modem, or software package, it is often necessary or desirable for the consumer to register the product with the product's manufacturer before the first use of the product. Registration of such a product typically requires the product owner to provide personal identifying information--such as the owner's name, address, and telephone number--on a printed form that is mailed or faxed to the manufacturer, or on a web-based form that is transmitted to the manufacturer over the World Wide Web. Similarly, users are typically required to register with online services, such as web-based services for purchasing event tickets, downloading electronic coupons, or storing digital photographs in online albums, before first using such services. Such registration processes typically require the user to provide personal identifying information similar to that required for product registrations.

The lack of an explanation as to how Howard teaches this aspect of the claimed subject matter is error since obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) exists only when the subject matter of a claim as a whole would have been obvious.

In responding to this argument, the Examiner stated in the Final Rejection “the examiner has pointed out exactly where this is located in the prior art, as applicant has not argued against what the examiner wrote, merely denying that it is in the prior art.” FR, pages 4 to 5. With all due respect, the Final Rejection does not point out where Howard teaches the device would be registered with the manufacturer without including information identifying the user as required by the present claims. All the Examiner has asserted is that Howard does not teach “registering the device with the manufacturer” and “[a]s its status is checked, it would have been obvious...to provide a mechanism for registering the warranty in case it has not been registered yet.” FR, page 3. While the Examiner also asserts that Howard registers the external device “using only the identification of the machine not the owner,” FR, page 2, this registration is an internal registration within the host system and not an external registration with the manufacturer of the device as required by the claim 1. Thus, the Examiner has not “pointed out exactly where this is located in the prior art.”

Howard provides no details as to how installer 22 would provide verification of warranty registration, let alone without including information identifying the user. Viewing Howard by itself, without knowledge of the present application and claims as required by 35

U.S.C. § 103(a), it is seen that the Examiner's rejection is based upon impermissible hindsight.

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

b. Separate argument for independent claim 14

Claim 14 is directed to a computer-implemented method that is performed by a registration server. In part claim 14 requires receipt of a registration message for a device that does not include information identifying a user of the device and registering the device with a manufacturer based on the registration request message.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 14 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest registering a device with a manufacturer wherein a registration request message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply here. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the steps set forth in claim 14. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

c. Separate argument for independent claim 25

Claim 25 is directed to a method performed by a device for registering the device with a manufacturer where a registration request message is transmitted to a registration server wherein the input does not include information identifying the user and receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 25 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest registering a device with a manufacturer wherein a registration request message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply here. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the steps set forth in claim 25. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

d. Separate argument for independent claim 31

Claim 31 is directed to a system that includes a device comprising means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and a registration server comprising means for registering the device with a

manufacturer of the device in response to receipt of the registration request message. Furthermore claim 31 states that the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 31 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest registering a device with a manufacturer wherein a registration request message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply to the system of claim 31. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the function required by claim 31. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

e. Separate argument for claim 44

Claim 44 is directed to a registration server for registering a device having means for receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and means for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device based on the registration request message wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 44 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest a registration server that is capable of registering a device with a manufacturer wherein a registration request message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply to the registration server of claim 44. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the function required by claim 44. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

f. Separate argument for claim 55

Claim 55 is directed to a device comprising means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and means for receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device, wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 55 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest a device that is capable of transmitting a registration message to a registration server where the input does not include information

identifying the user or receiving from a registration server a registration confirmation confirming that the device is registered with a manufacturer wherein a registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply to the device of claim 55. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the function required by claim 55. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

g. Separate argument for claim 61

Claim 61 is directed to a computer-implemented method for registering a device with a service comprising steps of, at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user, wherein said registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered with the service; and at the registration server, registering the device for use with the service in response to receipt of the registration request message, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 61 is also in error. As developed above in regard to claim 1, Howard does not teach or suggest registering a device with a service wherein a

registration request message does not include information identifying the user. The arguments set forth above in regard to claim 1 apply to the method of claim 61. The registration server 24 identified by the Examiner in Howard, FR, page 2, does not perform the steps required by claim 61. The Examiner's case of obviousness involves the possible verification of a warranty which involves the use of installer 22 of Howard, not registry 24 which the Examiner identifies as the "server."

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

h. Separate argument for dependent claims 2, 3, 26, 27, 32, 33, 56, 57, 62 and 63

Apart from being patentable for the reasons set forth above in regard to the independent claims from which they depend, these claims are separately patentable because Howard does not teach or suggest that the input needed for registration of a device comprises performance of only a single action by the user such as the pressing of a button on the device. The Examiner states at page 3 of the Final Rejection that so-called Plug-n-Play devices are well known in the art and that such devices "inherently" only require the single action of pressing the "on" button. However, this analysis ignores the requirements of the claims that the input provided by the single action of the user must be capable of registering the device with a manufacturer without including information identifying the user. The Examiner has not explained how pushing a button of a Plug-n-Play device results in the registration of the device according to the claims. The Examiner has erred by not taking into account the subject matter of these claims as a whole.

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

i. **Claims 4-8, 10, 12, 13, 15-19, 21, 22, 23, 28, 30, 34-38, 42, 43,45-49, 51-54, 58, 60, 64-72**

For the purposes of this appeal, these claims are not separately argued and are patentable for the reasons set forth above for the claims from which they depend.

Reversal of the rejection is requested.

Conclusions

Appellant respectfully requests reversal of the Final Rejection of claims 1 Claims 1 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21, 23 to 28, 30 to 38, 42 to 49, 51, 53 to 58, and 60 to 72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Date: August, 18, 2008

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. A computer-implemented method for registering a device, the method comprising steps of:
 - (A) at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and
 - (B) at the registration server, registering the device with a manufacturer of the device in response to receipt of the registration request message;
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (B) comprises steps of: (B)(1) obtaining an identifier of the device; and (B)(2) registering the device based on the identifier.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the method further comprises steps of: (C) at the registration server, transmitting the assigned identifier to the device; and (D) at the device, recording the assigned identifier.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising steps of: (C) at the registration server prior to the step (B), determining whether the device is registered; and (D) at the registration server, performing the step (B) only if it is determined in the step (C) that the device is not registered.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
10. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of recording the identifier of the device.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of: (C) at the registration server, transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed in the step (B).
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a printer.

14. A computer-implemented method performed by a registration server to register a device, the method comprising steps of:
 - (A) receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and
 - (B) registering the device with a manufacturer of the device based on the registration request message;
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step (B) comprises steps of:
 - (B)(1) obtaining an identifier of the device; and
 - (B)(2) registering the device based on the identifier.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the method further comprises a step of: (C) transmitting the assigned identifier to the device.

18. The method of claim 15, further comprising steps of: (C) prior to the step (B), determining whether the device is registered; and (D) performing the step (B) only if it is determined in the step (C) that the device is not registered.
19. The method of claim 14, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
21. The method of claim 14, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of recording the identifier of the device.
23. The method of claim 14, further comprising a step of: (C) transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed in the step (B).
24. The method of claim 14, wherein the device comprises a printer.
25. A method performed by a device for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device, the method comprising steps of:
 - (A) transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and
 - (B) receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device;

wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.
27. The method of claim 25, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.
28. The method of claim 25, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
30. The method of claim 25, wherein the device comprises a printer.
31. A system comprising:
 - a device comprising means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and
 - a registration server comprising means for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device in response to receipt of the registration request message;
 - wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.
33. The system of claim 31, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.
34. The system of claim 31, wherein the means for registering the device comprises: means for obtaining an identifier of the device; and means for registering the device based on the identifier.
35. The system of claim 34, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.
36. The system of claim 34, wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for assigning the identifier to the device, wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting the assigned identifier to the device, and wherein the device further comprises means for recording the assigned identifier.
37. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration server further comprises means for determining whether the device is registered, and wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for registering the device only if the device is not registered.

38. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
42. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed by the means for registering the device.
43. The system of claim 31, wherein the device comprises a printer.
44. A registration server for registering a device, the registration server comprising:
 - means for receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and
 - means for registering the device with a manufacturer of the device based on the registration request message;
 - wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.
45. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the means for registering the device comprises: means for obtaining an identifier of the device; and means for registering the device based on the identifier.

46. The registration server of claim 45, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.
47. The registration server of claim 45, wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting the assigned identifier to the device.
48. The registration server of claim 44, further comprising: means for determining whether the device is registered; and wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for registering the device only if the device is not registered.
49. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
51. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for recording the identifier of the device.
53. The registration server of claim 44, further comprising: means for transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed by the means for registering the device.

54. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the device comprises a printer.
55. A device comprising:
 - means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and
 - means for receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered with a manufacturer of the device;

wherein the registration confirmation message does not include information identifying the user.
56. The device of claim 55, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.
57. The device of claim 55, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.
58. The device of claim 55, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.
60. The device of claim 55, wherein the device comprises a printer.

61 A computer-implemented method for registering a device with a service, the method comprising steps of:

- (A) at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user, wherein said registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered with the service; and
- (B) at the registration server, registering the device for use with the service in response to receipt of the registration request message;
wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying the user.

62. The method of claim 61, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.

63. The method of claim 61, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.

64. The method of claim 61, wherein the step (B) comprises steps of:

- (B)(1) obtaining an identifier of the device; and
- (B)(2) registering the device based on the identifier.

65. The method of claim 64, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and

wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

66. The method of claim 64, wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the method further comprises steps of:

- (C) at the registration server, transmitting the assigned identifier to the device; and
- (D) at the device, recording the assigned identifier.

67. The method of claim 61, further comprising steps of:

- (C) at the registration server prior to the step (B), determining whether the device is registered; and
- (D) at the registration server, performing the step (B) only if it is determined in the step (C) that the device is not registered.

68. The method of claim 61, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

69. The method of claim 64, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of recording the identifier of the device.

70. The method of claim 64, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of creating an account for use with the service, the account being associated with the identifier of the device.

71. The method of claim 61, further comprising a step of:

(C) at the registration server, transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed in the step (B).

72. The method of claim 61, wherein the device comprises a printer.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.